

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095
(413) 596-2800, EXT. 204



WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 27, 2015

The Conservation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Members present: Christopher Brown, Chairman, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, George Reich and Stoughton Smead

Staff: Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

7:10 PM Notice of Intent Bruer Pond/Sevey Park (cont'd from 4/13/15)

Present: Tonya Basch, Wilbraham DPW Assistant Engineer

The Town is proposing to stabilize the stream bed in Bruer Pond and construct an access bridge over the stream.. The Conservation Commission continued the public hearing until tonight pending receipt of comments from Mass Natural Heritage. The memo was received and it indicates that the proposed project will not adversely affect the actual Resource Area Habitat of state-protected rare wildlife species. The Massachusetts Endangered Species review indicated that the project proposed will not result in a prohibited "take" of state-listed rare species. The Natural Heritage review is valid for five years as long as no changes to the project are made.

Motion: Jim Roberts, close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions within 21 days

2nd: Stoughton Smead

Unanimously in Favor: Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, George Reich and Stoughton Smead

Certificate of Compliance 186V Tinkham Road

The Conservation Commission received a request for a Certificate of Compliance for the pond project located at 186V Tinkham Road. This parcel is adjacent to Bolles Road. Several members went to the site to confirm compliance to the issued Order of Conditions. The applicant, Dr. Matthews submitted a site plan and a letter from Dan Nietze, an Environmental Engineer indicating the site was in compliance with the approved plans.

Motion: George Reich, issue the Certificate of Compliance

2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in Favor: Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, George Reich and Stoughton Smead

Request for Use of Public Property Thayer Brook/Wilbraham Community Garden

9th Annual "Plowing the Community Garden"

The Wilbraham Community Garden is celebrating their 9th Annual "Plowing the Community Garden" on May 2, 2015 at the Thayer Brook property. This event includes horse drawn plows, venders, music and food. It is a well attended event drawing 100-150 spectators.

Motion: George Reich, approve request for Use of Public Property

2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in Favor: Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, George Reich and Stoughton Smead

Site Walk 6 Decorie Drive

This property came to the attention of the Conservation Commission after a surveyor discovered that the garage built several decades ago was on Town-owned Conservation property. The sale of the property still proceeded with the anticipation of resolving the issue of the garage. The Commission went to the site to observe the encroachment and also noticed that the electric dog fence is also over the property line.

A proposal from the owners of 6 Decorie Drive was presented. They would like to do an equal exchange of land so they can keep the garage and make it conforming as far as property line set back regulations. See file for surveyed site plan. The Commission does not agree that an exchange of property would be an advantage and felt that the owners should purchase the land that the garage has encroached upon. Chairman Christopher Brown indicated that he would speak to town council Mike Hassett regarding that type of transaction and if it can even be done.

Shady Lane (lots 10-15) Donation of Land

The Conservation Commission wanted input from the Open Space and Recreation Committee regarding the donation of 6 additional parcels of land from Mrs. Ham. Joe Calabrese was present and spoke about how the property is very nicely wooded with existing small trails. He indicated support of accepting the parcels for Open Space and Conservation land. Mrs. Ham attended the OSRC and expressed her desire to keep the property in a wooded natural state. The Commission decided to table the discussion, and make another site walk to the property, until the next meeting and then decide if it is advantageous to accept these parcels.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM. The Conservation Commission will reconvene at its next scheduled meeting on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:

Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

Christopher Brown, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____